

TITLE XII—WAR RISK INSURANCE

SEC. 1201. DEFINITIONS (46 App. U.S.C. 1281 (1999)). As used in this title—

(a) The term “American vessels” includes any vessel registered, enrolled, or licensed under the laws of the United States and any undocumented vessel owned or chartered by or made available to the United States or any department or agency thereof and any tug or barge or other watercraft (documented or undocumented) owned by a citizen of the United States used in essential water transportation or in the fishing trade or industry, except watercraft used exclusively in or for sport fishing.

(b) The term “transportation in the water-borne commerce of the United States” includes the operation of vessels in the fishing trade or industry, except watercraft used exclusively in or for sport fishing.

(c) The term “war risks” includes to such extent as the Secretary may determine all or any part of those losses which are excluded from marine insurance coverage under a “free of capture and seizure” clause, or analogous clauses.

(d) The term “citizen of the United States” includes corporations, partnerships, and associations existing, authorized, or organized under the laws of the United States or any State, district, Territory, or possession thereof.

(e) The term “Secretary” shall mean the Secretary of Transportation.

SEC. 1202. AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE INSURANCE; CONSIDERATION OF RISK (46 App. U.S.C. 1282 (1999)).

(a) The Secretary, with the approval of the President, and after such consultation with interested agencies of the Government as the President may require, may provide insurance and reinsurance against loss or damage by war risks in the manner and to the extent provided in this title, whenever it appears to the Secretary that such insurance adequate for the needs of the waterborne commerce of the United States can not be obtained on the reasonable terms and conditions from companies authorized to do an insurance business in a State of the United States.

(b) Any insurance or reinsurance issued under any of the provisions of this Act shall be based, insofar as practicable, upon consideration of the risk involved.

(c) Insurance and reinsurance for vessels may be provided by the Secretary under this title only on the condition that such vessels be available for the United States in time of war or national emergency.

SEC. 1203. PERSONS, PROPERTY, AND INTERESTS INSURABLE (46 App. U.S.C. 1283 (1999)). The Secretary may provide the insurance and reinsurance authorized by section 1202 with respect to the following persons, property, or interest:

(a) American vessels, including vessels under construction, foreign-flag vessels owned by citizens of the United States or engaged in transportation in the water-borne commerce of the United States or in such other transportation by water or such other services as may be deemed by the Secretary to be in the interest of the national defense or the national economy of the United States, when so engaged. In determining whether to grant such insurance or reinsurance to foreign-flag vessels, the Secretary shall further consider the characteristics, the employment, and the general management of the vessel by the owner or charterer. American- and foreign-flag vessels so insured or reinsured shall be subject to such vessel location reporting requirements as the Secretary may establish by regulation.

(b) Cargoes shipped or to be shipped on any such vessels, including shipments by express or registered mail; cargoes owned by citizens or residents of the United States, its Territories or possessions; cargoes imported to, or exported from, the United States, its Territories or possessions, and cargoes sold or purchased by citizens or residents of the United States, its Territories or possessions, under contracts of sale or purchase by the terms of which the risk of loss by war risks or the obligation to provide insurance against such risks is assumed by or falls upon a citizen or resident of the United States, its Territories or possessions; cargoes shipped between ports in the United States, or between ports in the United States and its Territories and possessions, or between ports in such Territories or possessions. For the purposes of this title, the term "cargo" shall include loaded or empty containers located aboard such vessels.

(c) The disbursements, including advances to masters and general average disbursements, and freight and passage moneys of such vessels.

(d) The personal effects of the masters, officers, and crews of such vessels, and of other persons transported on such vessels.

(e) Masters, officers, members of the crews of such vessels and other persons employed or transported thereon against loss of life, injury, detention by an enemy of the United States following capture.

(f) Statutory or contractual obligations or other liabilities of such vessels or of the owner or charterer of such vessels of the nature customarily covered by insurance.

SEC. 1204. RISKS OTHER THAN WAR RISKS (46 App. U.S.C. 1284 (1999)).

Whenever the Secretary shall insure any risk included under subsection (d), (e), or (f) of section 1203, insofar as it concerns liabilities relating to the masters, officers, and crews of such vessels or to other persons transported thereon, the insurance on such risks may include risks other than war risks to the extent that the Secretary determines to be necessary or advisable.

SEC. 1205. INSURANCE ON PROPERTY OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES (46 App. U.S.C. 1285 (1999)).

(a) Any department or agency of the United States may, with the approval of the President, procure from the Secretary any of the insurance as provided for in this title, except as provided in sections 1 and 2 of the Act of July 8, 1937 (50 Stat. 479).

(b) The Secretary is authorized with such approval to provide such insurance at the request of the Secretary of Defense, and such other agencies as the President may prescribe, without premium in consideration of the agreement of the Secretary of Defense or such agency to indemnify the Secretary against all losses covered by such insurance, and the Secretary of Defense and such other agencies are authorized to execute such indemnity agreement with the Secretary. The signature of the President (or of an official designated by the President) on the agreement shall be treated as an expression of the approval required under section 1202(a) to provide the insurance.⁴⁹

SEC. 1206. LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR PERSONS PERFORMING SERVICES OR PROVIDING FACILITIES FOR VESSELS (46 App. U.S.C. 1286 (1999)). The Secretary is authorized to provide insurance for any person who performs services or provides facilities for or with respect to any American- or foreign-flag vessels, public or private, against legal liabilities that may be incurred by such person in connection with the performance of such services or the providing of such facilities. Such insurance shall not be issued against liability to employees in respect of employers' liability of workmen's compensation. No such insurance shall be provided unless, in the opinion of the Secretary, such insurance is required in the prosecution of the war effort or in connection with national defense and can not be obtained at reasonable rates or upon reasonable conditions from approved companies authorized to do insurance business in any State of the United States.

⁴⁹Section 1071(a) of Public Law 105-261, approved October 17, 1998 (112 STAT. 1920, 2137), added the final sentence to section 1205(b). Section 1071(b) provides that "The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply only to a signature of the President (or of an official designated by the President) on or after the date of the enactment of this Act."

SEC. 1207. REINSURANCE; RATES; ALLOWANCES TO INSURANCE CARRIERS (46 App. U.S.C. 1287 (1999)).

(a) To the extent that he is authorized by this title to provide marine, war risk, and liability insurance, the Secretary may reinsure, in whole or in part, any company authorized to do an insurance business in any State of the United States. The Secretary may reinsure with, or cede or retrocede to, any such company any insurance or reinsurance provided by the Secretary in accordance with the provisions of this title.

(b) Reinsurance shall not be provided by the Secretary at rates less than nor obtained by the Secretary at rates more than the rates established by the Secretary on the same or similar risks or the rates charged by the insurance carrier for the insurance so reinsured whichever is most advantageous to the Secretary, except that the Secretary may make to the insurance carrier such allowances for expenses on account of the cost of services rendered or facilities furnished as he deems reasonably to accord with good business practice, but such allowance to the carrier shall not provide for any payment by the carrier on account of solicitation for or stimulation of insurance business.

SEC. 1208. INSURANCE FUND; INVESTMENTS; APPROPRIATIONS (46 App. U.S.C. 1288 (1999)).

(a) The Secretary shall create an insurance fund in the Treasury to enable him to carry out the provisions of this title. Moneys appropriated by Congress to carry out the provisions of this title and all moneys received from premiums, salvage, or other recoveries and all receipts in connection with this title shall be deposited in the Treasury to the credit of such fund. Payments of return premiums, losses, settlements, judgments, and all liabilities incurred by the United States under this title shall be made from such fund through the division of Disbursement, Treasury Department. Upon the request of the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of the Treasury may invest or reinvest all or any part of the fund in securities of the United States or in securities guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States. The interest and benefits accruing from such securities shall be deposited to the credit of the fund.

(b) Such sums as shall be necessary to carry out the provisions of this title are authorized to be appropriated to such fund.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM VESSEL OPERATIONS

REVOLVING FUND (46 App. U.S.C. 1288a (1999)).⁵⁰ For the war-risk insurance revolving fund, authorized by title XII of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (Public Law 763, approved September 7,

⁵⁰ Enacted as section 601 of the Act of November 1, 1951 (65 STAT. 746), as amended, and not as part of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936.

1950), the Secretary of Transportation is authorized to transfer to said fund, at such times as it may become necessary in order to place into effect the insurance coverage authorized by said title, and in such amounts as he may determine, not to exceed a total of \$10,000,000 from the "Vessel operations revolving fund".

SEC. 1209. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS (46 App. U.S.C. 1289 (1999)).

(a) Issuance of Policies, Rules, and Regulations; Settlement of Claims; Valuation; Rejection and Review of Valuation.

(1) The Secretary, in the administration of this title, may issue such policies, rules, and regulations as he deems proper and may adjust and pay losses, compromise and settle claims, whether in favor of or against the United States and pay the amount of any judgment rendered against the United States in any suit, or the amount of any settlement agreed upon, in respect of any claim under insurance authorized by this title.

(2) In respect of hull insurance, the valuation in the policy for actual or constructive total loss of the vessel insured shall be a stated valuation (exclusive of National Defense features paid for by the Government) determined by the Secretary which shall not exceed the amount that would be payable if the vessel had been requisitioned for title under section 902(a) at the time of the attachment of the insurance under said policy: Provided, That the insured shall have the right within sixty days after the attachment of the insurance under said policy, or within sixty days after determination of such valuation by the Secretary, whichever is later, to reject such valuation, and shall pay, at the rate provided for in said policy, premiums upon such asserted valuation as the insured shall specify at the time of rejection, but such asserted valuation shall not operate to the prejudice of the Government in any subsequent action on the policy. In the event of the actual or constructive total loss of the vessel, if the insured has not rejected such valuation the amount of any claim therefor which is adjusted, compromised, settled, adjudged, or paid shall not exceed such stated amount, but if the insured has so rejected such valuation, the insured shall be paid as a tentative advance only, 75 per centum of such valuation so determined by the Secretary and shall be entitled to sue the United States in a court having jurisdiction of such claims to recover such valuation as would be equal to the just compensation which such court determines would have been payable if the vessel had been requisitioned for title under section 902(a) at the time of the attachment of the insurance under said policy: Provided, That in the event of an election by the insured to reject the stated valuation fixed by the Secretary and to sue in the courts, the amount of the judgment will be payable without regard to the limitations contained in the twelfth paragraph under the heading "Maritime Activities" in title I of the Department of Commerce and Related

Agencies Appropriation Act, 1956, in the tenth paragraph under the heading "Maritime Activities" in title III of the Department of State, Justice, and Commerce, and the United States Information Agency Appropriation Act, 1955, in the eleventh paragraph under the heading "Maritime Activities" in title III of the Department of Justice, State, and Commerce Appropriation Act, 1954, the tenth paragraph under the heading "Operating Differential Subsidies" in title II of the Independent Offices Appropriation Act, 1953, the corresponding paragraphs of the Independent Offices Appropriation Act, 1952, and the Third Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1951, although the excess of any amounts advanced on account of just compensation over the amount of the court judgment will be required to be refunded. In the event of such court determination, premiums under the policy shall be adjusted on the basis of the valuation as finally determined and of the rate provided for in said policy.

(b) **Forms and Policies; Rates; Fees.** The Secretary may prescribe and change forms and policies, and fix, adjust, and change the amounts insured and rates of premium provided for in this title. The Secretary may charge and collect an annual fee in an amount calculated to cover the expenses of processing applications for insurance, the employment of underwriting agents, and the appointment of experts.

(c) **Commercial Practice Controlling; Limitation on Fees.** The Secretary, in administering this title, may exercise his powers, perform his duties and functions, and make his expenditures, in accordance with commercial practice in the marine insurance business. Except as authorized in subsection (d) of this section, no insurance broker or other person acting in a similar intermediary capacity shall be paid any fee or other consideration by the Secretary by virtue of his participation in arranging any insurance wherein the Secretary directly insures any of the risk thereof.

(d) **Underwriting Agents.** The Secretary may, and whenever he finds it practical to do so shall, employ domestic companies or groups of domestic companies authorized to do a marine insurance business in any State of the United States, to act as his underwriting agent. The Secretary may allow such companies or groups of companies fair and reasonable compensation for servicing insurance written by such companies or groups of companies as underwriting agent for the Secretary. The services of such underwriting agents may be utilized in the adjustment of claims under insurance provided by this title, but no claim shall be paid unless and until it has been approved by the Secretary. Such compensation may include an allowance for expenses reasonably incurred by such agent, but such allowance shall not include any payment by such agent on account of solicitation for or stimulation of insurance business.

(e) **Employment of Marine Insurance Experts.** The Secretary without regard to the laws, rules, or regulations relating to the employment of employees of the United States, may appoint and prescribe the duties of such number of experts in marine insurance as he deems necessary under this title.

(f) **Utilization of Services of other Government Agencies.** The Secretary with the consent of any executive department, independent establishment, or other agency of the Government, including any field service thereof, may avail himself of the use of information, services, facilities, officers, and employees thereof in carrying out the provisions of this title.

SEC. 1210. SEAMEN'S RIGHTS UNAFFECTED (46 App. U.S.C. 1290 (1999)). This title shall not affect rights of seamen under existing law.

SEC. 1211. REPORTS TO CONGRESS (46 App. U.S.C. 1291 (1999)). The Secretary shall include in his annual report to Congress a detailed statement of all activities and of all expenditures and receipts under this title for the period covered by such report.

SEC. 1212. ACTION ON CLAIMS FOR LOSSES; JURISDICTION OF COURTS; LIMITATION OF ACTIONS (46 App. U.S.C. 1292 (1999)). Upon disagreement as to a loss insured under this title, suit may be maintained against the United States in admiralty in the district in which the claimant or his agent resides, and this remedy shall be exclusive of any other action by reason of the same subject matter against any agent or employee of the United States employed or retained under this title. If the claimant has no residence in the United States, suit may be brought in the district court of the District of Columbia or in such other district court in which the Attorney General of the United States agrees to accept service. Such suits shall be heard and determined under the provisions of an Act entitled "An Act authorizing suits against the United States in admiralty, suits for salvage services, and providing for the release of merchant vessels belonging to the United States from arrest and attachment in foreign jurisdiction, and for other purposes," approved March 9, 1920, as amended (known as the Suits in Admiralty Act). All persons having or claiming or who might have an interest in such insurance, may be made parties either initially or upon the motion of either party. In any case where the Secretary acknowledges the indebtedness of the United States on account of such insurance, and there is a dispute as to the persons entitled to receive payment, the United States may bring an action in the nature of a bill of interpleader against such parties, in the District Court for the District of Columbia, or in the district court of the district in which any such per-

son resides. In such actions any party, if not a resident of or found within the district, may be brought in by order of court served in such reasonable manner as the court directs. If the court is satisfied that persons unknown might assert a claim on account of such insurance, it may direct service upon such persons unknown by publication in the Federal Register. Judgment in any such suit shall discharge the United States from further liability to any parties to such action, and to all persons when service by publication upon persons unknown is directed by the court. The period within which suits may be commenced contained in said Suits in Admiralty Act shall, if claim be filed therefor within such period, be suspended from such time of filing until the claim shall have been administratively denied by the Secretary and for sixty days thereafter: Provided, however, That such claim shall be deemed to have been administratively denied if not acted upon within six months after the time of filing, unless the Secretary for good cause shown shall have otherwise agreed with the claimant.

SEC. 1213. ADDITIONAL INSURANCE WITH OTHER UNDERWRITERS (46 App. U.S.C. 1293 (1999)). A person having an insurable interest in a vessel may, with the approval of the Secretary, insure with other underwriters in an amount in excess of the amount insured with the Secretary of Transportation, and in that event the Secretary of Transportation shall not be entitled to the benefit of such insurance.

SEC. 1214. EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE INSURANCE (46 App. U.S.C. 1294 (1999)). The authority of the Secretary to provide insurance and reinsurance under this title shall expire June 30, 2005.

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INDEMNIFICATION OF DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR LOSSES COVERED BY VESSEL WAR RISK INSURANCE (10 U.S.C. 2645 (1999))⁵¹

(a) Prompt Indemnification Required.

(1) In the event of a loss that is covered by vessel war risk insurance, the Secretary of Defense shall promptly indemnify the Secretary of Transportation for the amount of the loss consistent with the indemnification agreement between the two Secretaries that underlies such insurance. The Secretary of Defense shall make such indemnification—

(A) in the case of a claim for the loss of a vessel, not later than 90 days after the date on which the Secretary of Transportation determines

⁵¹This provision of law was enacted as Section 1079(b) of Public Law 104-201, approved September 23, 1996 (110 STAT. 2669), the National Defense Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1997, and not as part of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936.

the claim to be payable or that amounts are due under the policy that provided the vessel war risk insurance; and

(B) in the case of any other claim, not later than 180 days after the date on which the Secretary of Transportation determines the claim to be payable.

(2) When there is a loss of a vessel that is (or may be) covered by vessel war risk insurance, the Secretary of Transportation may make, during the period when a claim for such loss is pending with the Secretary of Transportation, any required periodic payments owed by the insured party to a lessor or mortgagee of such vessel. Such payments shall commence not later than 30 days following the date of the presentment of the claim for the loss of the vessel to the Secretary of Transportation. If the Secretary of Transportation determines that the claim is payable, any amount paid under this paragraph arising from such claim shall be credited against the amount payable under the vessel war risk insurance. If the Secretary of Transportation determines that the claim is not payable, any amount paid under this paragraph arising from such claim shall constitute a debt to the United States, payable to the insurance fund. Any such amounts so returned to the United States shall be promptly credited to the fund or account from which the payments were made under this paragraph.

(b) **Source of Funds for Payment of Indemnity.** The Secretary of Defense may pay an indemnity described in subsection (a) from any funds available to the Department of Defense for operation and maintenance, and such sums as may be necessary for payment of such indemnity are hereby authorized to be transferred to the Secretary of Transportation for such purpose.

(c) **Deposit of Funds.** Any amount transferred to the Secretary of Transportation under this section shall be deposited in, and merged with amounts in, the Vessel War Risk Insurance Fund as provided in the second sentence of section 1208(a) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936 (46 U.S.C. App. 1288(a)).

(d) **Notice to Congress.** In the event of a loss that is covered by vessel war risk insurance in the case of an incident in which the covered loss is (or is expected to be) in an amount in excess of \$1,000,000, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress—

(1) notification of the loss as soon after the occurrence of the loss as possible and in no event more than 30 days after the date of the loss; and

(2) semiannual reports thereafter updating the information submitted under paragraph (1) and showing with respect to losses arising from such incident the total amount expended to cover such losses, the source

of such funds, pending litigation, and estimated total cost to the Government.

(e) Implementing Matters.

(1) Payment of indemnification under this section is not subject to section 2214 or 2215 of this title or any other provision of law requiring notification to Congress before funds may be transferred.

(2) Consolidation of claims arising from the same incident is not required before indemnification of the Secretary of Transportation for payment of a claim may be made under this section.

(f) Construction With Other Transfer Authority. Authority to transfer funds under this section is in addition to any other authority provided by law to transfer funds (whether enacted before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this section) and is not subject to any dollar limitation or notification requirement contained in any other such authority to transfer funds.

(g) Annual Report on Contingent Liabilities. Not later than March 1 of each year, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress a report setting forth the current amount of the contingent outstanding liability of the United States under the vessel war risk insurance program under title XII of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936 (46 U.S.C. App. 1281 et seq.).

(h) Definitions. In this section:

(1) *Vessel War Risk Insurance.* The term “vessel war risk insurance” means, insurance and reinsurance provided through policies issued by the Secretary of Transportation under title XII of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936 (46 U.S.C. App. 1281 et seq.) that is provided by that Secretary without premium at the request of the Secretary of Defense and is covered by an indemnity agreement between the Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of Defense.

(2) *Vessel War Risk Insurance Fund.* The term “Vessel War Risk Insurance Fund” means the insurance fund referred to in the first sentence of section 1208(a) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936 (46 U.S.C. App. 1288(a)).

(3) *Loss.* The term “loss” includes damage to or destruction of property, personal injury or death, and other liabilities and expenses covered by the vessel war risk insurance.

TITLE XIII—MARITIME EDUCATION AND TRAINING

SEC. 1301. CONGRESSIONAL DECLARATION OF POLICY (46 App. U.S.C. 1295 (1999)). It is the policy of the United States that merchant marine vessels of the United States should be operated by highly trained and efficient citizens of the United States and that the United States Navy and the merchant marine of the United States should work closely together to promote the maximum integration of the total seapower forces of the United States. In furtherance of this policy—

(1) the Secretary of Transportation is authorized to take the steps necessary to provide for the education and training of citizens of the United States who are capable of providing for the safe and efficient operation of the merchant marine of the United States at all times and as a naval and military auxiliary in time of war or national emergency; and

(2) the Secretary of Navy, in cooperation with the Maritime Administrator and the head of each State maritime academy, shall assure that the training of future merchant marine officers at the United States Merchant Marine Academy and at the State maritime academies includes programs for naval science training in the operation of merchant marine vessels as a naval and military auxiliary and that naval officer training programs for the training of future officers, insofar as possible, be maintained at designated maritime academies consistent with United States Navy standards and needs.

SEC. 1302. DEFINITIONS (46 App. U.S.C. 1295a (1999)). For purposes of this title—

(1) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Transportation;

(2) the term “Academy” means the United States Merchant Marine Academy located at Kings Point, New York which is maintained under section 1303;

(3) the term “State maritime academy” means any maritime academy or college which is assisted under section 1304 and which is sponsored by any State or territory of the United States or, in the case of a regional maritime academy or college, sponsored by any group of States or territories of the United States, or both; and

(4) the term “merchant marine officer” means any person who holds a license issued by the United States Coast Guard which authorizes service—

(A) as a master, mate, or pilot on board any vessel of 1,000 gross tons or more as measured under section 14502 of title 46, United States Code, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 of that title as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 of that

title which is documented under the laws of the United States and which operates on the oceans or on the Great Lakes; or

(B) as an engineer officer on board any vessel propelled by machinery of 4,000 horsepower or more which is documented under the laws of the United States.

SEC. 1303. MAINTENANCE OF ACADEMY (46 App. U.S.C. 1295b (1999)).

(a) **Duty of Secretary.** The Secretary shall maintain the Academy for providing instruction to individuals to prepare them for service in the merchant marine of the United States.

(b) Nomination and appointment of cadets; designation and licensing of individuals from the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Western Hemisphere nations and nations other than the United States.

(1) Each Senator and Member of the House of Representatives, the Panama Canal Commission, the Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Delegate from American Samoa, may nominate for appointment as a cadet at the Academy any individual who is—

(A) a citizen of the United States or a national of the United States; and

(B) a resident of the State represented by such Senator if the individual is nominated by a Senator, a resident of the State in which the congressional district represented by such Member of the House of Representatives is located if the individual is nominated by a Member of the House of Representatives (or a resident of Guam, the Virgin Islands, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or American Samoa if the individual is nominated by a Member of the House of Representatives representing such area), a resident of the area or installation described in paragraph (3)(A)(ii), or a son or daughter of the personnel described in such paragraph, if the individual is nominated by the Panama Canal Commission, or a resident of the Northern Mariana Islands if the individual is nominated by the Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(2)(A) The Secretary shall establish minimum requirements for the individuals nominated pursuant to paragraph (1) and shall establish a system of competition for the selection of individuals qualified for appointment as cadets at the Academy.

(B) Such system of competition shall determine the relative merit of appointing each such individual to the Academy through the use of competitive examinations, an assessment of the academic background of the individual, and such other factors as are considered effective indicators of motivation and the probability of successful completion of training at the Academy.

(3)(A) Qualified individuals nominated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be selected each year for appointment as cadets at the Academy to fill positions allocated as follows:

(i) Positions shall be allocated each year for individuals who are residents of each State and are nominated by the Members of the Congress from such State in proportion to the representation in Congress from that State.

(ii) Two positions shall be allocated each year for individuals nominated by the Panama Canal Commission who are sons or daughters of residents of any area or installation located in the Republic of Panama which is made available to the United States pursuant to the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977, the agreements relating to and implementing that Treaty, signed September 7, 1977, and the agreement Between the United States of America and the Republic of Panama Concerning Air Traffic Control and Related Services, concluded January 8, 1979, and sons or daughters of personnel of the United States Government and the Panama Canal Commission residing in the Republic of Panama, nominated by the Panama Canal Commission.

(iii) One position shall be allocated each year for an individual who is a resident of Guam and is nominated by the Delegate to the House of Representatives from Guam.

(iv) One position shall be allocated each year for an individual who is a resident of the Virgin Islands and is nominated by the Delegate to the House of Representatives from the Virgin Islands.

(v) One position shall be allocated each year for an individual who is a resident of the Northern Mariana Islands and is nominated by the Governor of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(vi) One position shall be allocated each year for an individual who is a resident of American Samoa and is nominated by the Delegate to the House of Representatives from American Samoa.

(vii) Four positions shall be allocated each year for individuals who are residents of the District of Columbia and are nominated by the Delegate to the House of Representatives from the District of Columbia.

(viii) One position shall be allocated each year for an individual who is a resident of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and is nominated by the Resident Commissioner to the United States from Puerto Rico.

(B) The Secretary shall make appointments of qualified individuals to fill the positions allocated pursuant to subparagraph (A) (from among the individuals nominated pursuant to paragraph (1)) in the order of merit determined pursuant to paragraph (2)(B) among resi-

dents of each State, Guam, the Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and among individuals nominated by the Panama Canal Commission.

(C) If positions are not filled after the appointments are made pursuant to subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall make appointments of qualified individuals to fill such positions from among all individuals nominated pursuant to paragraph (1) in the order of merit determined pursuant to paragraph (2)(B) among all such individuals.

(D) In addition, the Secretary may each year appoint without competition as cadets at the Academy not more than 40 qualified individuals possessing qualities deemed to be of special value to the Academy. In making such appointments the Secretary shall attempt to achieve a national demographic balance at the Academy.

(E) No preference shall be granted in selecting individuals for appointment as cadets at the Academy because one or more members of the immediate family of any such individual are alumni of the Academy.

(F) Any citizen of the United States selected for appointment pursuant to this paragraph must agree to apply for midshipman status in the United States Naval Reserve (including the Merchant Marine Reserve, United States Naval Reserve) before being appointed as a cadet at the Academy.

(G) For purposes of this paragraph, the term "State" means the several States.

(4)(A) In addition to paragraph (3), the Secretary may permit, upon designation by the Secretary of the Interior, individuals from the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands to receive instruction at the Academy.

(B) Not more than 4 individuals may receive instruction under this paragraph at any one time.

(C) Any individual receiving instruction under the authority of this paragraph shall receive the same allowances and shall be subject to the same rules and regulations governing admission, attendance, discipline, resignation, discharge, dismissal, and graduation as cadets at the Academy appointed from the United States, subject to such exceptions as shall be jointly agreed upon by the Secretary and the Secretary of the Interior.

(5)(A) In addition to paragraphs (3) and (4), the President may designate individuals from nations located in the Western Hemisphere other than the United States to receive instruction at the Academy.

(B) Not more than 12 individuals may receive instruction under this paragraph at any one time, and not more than 2 individuals receiving instruction under this paragraph at any one time may be from the same nation.

(C) Any individual receiving instruction under this subparagraph is entitled to the same allowances and shall be subject to the same rules and regulations governing admission, attendance, discipline, resignation, discharge, dismissal, and graduation as cadets at the Academy appointed from the United States.

(6)(A) In addition to paragraphs (3), (4), and (5), the Secretary may permit, upon approval of the Secretary of State, individuals from nations other than the United States to receive instruction at the Academy.

(B) Not more than 30 individuals may receive instruction under this paragraph at any one time.

(C) The Secretary shall insure that each nation from which an individual comes to receive instruction under this paragraph shall reimburse the Secretary for the cost of such instruction (including the same allowances as received by cadets at the Academy appointed from the United States) as determined by the Secretary.

(D) Any individual receiving instruction at the Academy under this paragraph shall be subject to the same rules and regulations governing admission, attendance, discipline, resignation, discharge, dismissal, and graduation as cadets at the Academy appointed from the United States.

(7)(A) The Secretary may permit, upon approval of the Secretary of State, additional individuals from the Republic of Panama to receive instruction at the Academy, in addition to those individuals appointed under paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and (6) of this subsection.

(B) The Secretary shall be reimbursed for the cost of that instruction (including the same allowances as received by cadets at the Academy appointed from the United States) as determined by the Secretary.

(C) An individual receiving instructions at the Academy under this paragraph shall be subject to the same rules and regulations governing admission, attendance, discipline, resignation, discharge, dismissal, and graduation as cadets at the Academy appointed from the United States.

(8) An individual appointed as a cadet under paragraph (3), or receiving instruction under paragraph (4), (5), (6), or (7) of this subsection is not entitled to hold a license authorizing service on a merchant marine vessel of the United States solely by reason of graduation from the Academy.

(c)(1) Appointment of cadet as midshipman in the United States Naval Reserve. Any citizen of the United States who is appointed as a cadet at the Academy shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Navy as a midshipman in the United States Naval Reserve (including the Merchant Marine Reserve, United States Naval Reserve).

(2) The Secretary of the Navy shall provide for cadets of the Academy who are midshipmen in the United States Naval Reserve to be issued an identification card (referred to as a "military ID card") and to be entitled to all rights and privileges in accordance with the same eligibility criteria as apply to other members of the Ready Reserve of the reserve components of the Armed Forces.

(3) The Secretary of the Navy shall carry out paragraphs (1) and (2) in coordination with the Secretary.

(d) Uniforms, textbooks, and transportation allowances. The Secretary shall provide to any cadet at the Academy all required uniforms and textbooks and allowances for transportation (including reimbursement of traveling expenses) while traveling under orders as a cadet of the Academy.

(e) Commitment agreements.

(1) Each individual appointed as a cadet at the Academy after the date occurring 6 months after the effective date of the Maritime Education and Training Act of 1980, who is a citizen of the United States, shall as a condition of appointment to the Academy sign an agreement committing such individual—

(A) to complete the course of instruction at the Academy, unless the individual is separated by the Academy;

(B) to fulfill the requirements for a license as an officer in the merchant marine of the United States on or before the date of graduation from the Academy of such individual;

(C) to maintain a license as an officer in the merchant marine of the United States for at least 6 years following the date of graduation from the Academy of such individual;

(D) to apply for an appointment as, to accept if tendered an appointment as, and to serve as a commissioned officer in the United States Naval Reserve (including the Merchant Marine Reserve, United States Naval Reserve), the United States Coast Guard Reserve, or any other Reserve unit of an armed force of the United States, for at least 6 years following the date of graduation from the Academy of such individual;

(E) to serve the foreign and domestic commerce and the national defense of the United States for at least 5 years following the date of graduation from the Academy—

(i) as a merchant marine officer serving on vessels documented under the laws of the United States or on vessels owned and operated by the United States or by any State or territory of the United States;

(ii) as an employee in a United States maritime-related industry, profession, or marine science (as determined by the Secretary), if the Secretary determines that service under clause (i) is not available to such individual;

(iii) as a commissioned officer on active duty in an armed force of the United States or in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; or

(iv) by combining the services specified in clauses (i), (ii), and (iii); and

(F) to report to the Secretary on the compliance by the individual to this paragraph.

(2) If the Secretary determines that any individual who has attended the Academy for not less than 2 years has failed to fulfill the part of the agreement (required by paragraph (1)) described in paragraph (1)(A), such individual may be ordered by the Secretary of the Navy to active duty in the United States Navy to serve for a period of time not to exceed 2 years. In cases of hardship as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary may waive this paragraph.

(3)(A) If the Secretary determines that any individual has failed to fulfill any part of the agreement (required by paragraph (1)) described in subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), (E), or (F) of paragraph (1), such individual may be ordered to active duty to serve a period of time not less than 3 years and not more than the unexpired portion (as determined by the Secretary) of the service required by subparagraph (E) of such paragraph. The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall determine in which service the individual shall be ordered to active duty to serve such period of time. In cases of hardship as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary may waive this paragraph.

(B) If the Secretary of Defense is unable or unwilling to order an individual to active duty under subparagraph (A), the Secretary of Transportation—

(i) may recover from the individual the cost of education provided by the Federal Government; and

(ii) shall request the Attorney General to begin court proceedings to recover the costs of education if the Secretary decides to seek recovery under clause (i).

(4) The Secretary may defer the service commitment of any individual pursuant to subparagraph (E) of paragraph (1) (as specified in the agreement required by such paragraph) for a period of not more than 2 years if such individual is engaged in a graduate course of study approved by the Secretary, except that any deferment of service as a commissioned officer pursuant to paragraph (1)(E) must be approved by the Secretary of the military department (including the Secretary of Commerce with

respect to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) which has jurisdiction over such service.

(f) **Places of training.** The Secretary may provide for the training of cadets at the Academy—

(1) on vessels owned or subsidized by the United States;

(2) on other vessels documented under the laws of the United States if the owner of any such vessel cooperates in such use; and

(3) in shipyards or plants and with any industrial or educational organizations.

(g) **Bachelor of science degrees awarded.** The Superintendent of the Academy may confer the degree of bachelor of science upon any individual who has met the conditions prescribed by the Secretary and who, if a citizen of the United States, has passed the examination for a merchant marine officer's license. No individual may be denied a degree under this subsection because the individual is not permitted to take such examination solely because of physical disqualification.

(h) **Board of Visitors.**

(1) A Board of Visitors to the Academy shall be established, for a term of two years commencing at the beginning of each Congress, to visit the Academy annually on a date determined by the Secretary and to make recommendations on the operation of the Academy.

(2) The Board shall be composed of—

(A) 2 Senators appointed by the chairman of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee of the Senate;

(B) 3 Members of the House of Representatives appointed by the chairman of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee of the House of Representatives;

(C) 1 Senator appointed by the Vice President;

(D) 2 Members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

(E) the chairman of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee of the Senate and the chairman of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee of the House of Representatives, as ex officio members.

(3) Whenever a member of the Board is unable to attend the annual meeting provided in paragraph (1), another individual may be appointed in the manner provided by paragraph (2) as a substitute for such member.

(4) The chairmen of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee of the Senate and the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee of the House of Representatives may designate staff members of such committees to serve without reimbursement as staff for the Board.

(5) While away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Board, members of the Board and any staff members designated under paragraph (4) shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in the Government service are allowed expenses under section 5703 of title 5, United States Code

(i) Advisory Board.

(1) An Advisory Board to the Academy shall be established to visit the Academy at least once during each academic year, for the purpose of examining the course of instruction and management of the Academy and advising the Maritime Administrator and the Superintendent of the Academy.

(2) The Advisory Board shall be composed of not more than 7 persons of distinction in education and other fields relating to the Academy who shall be appointed by the Secretary for terms not to exceed 3 years and may be reappointed.

(3) The Secretary shall appoint a chairman from among the members of the Advisory Board.

(4) While away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of service for the Advisory Board, members of the Advisory Board shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in the Government service are allowed expenses under section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

(5) The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 1 et seq.) shall not apply to the Advisory Board established pursuant to this subsection.

SEC. 1304. STATE MARITIME ACADEMIES (46 App. U.S.C. 1295c (1999)).⁵²

(a) **Cooperation and assistance.** The Secretary shall cooperate with and assist any State maritime academy in providing instruction to individuals to prepare them for service in the merchant marine of the United States.

(b) **Regional maritime academies.** The Governors of all States or territories of the United States, or both, cooperating to sponsor a regional maritime academy shall designate in writing one State or

⁵² **Clearinghouse for Maritime Information.** Section 3604 of Public Law 105-261, approved October 17, 1998 (112 STAT. 1920, 2273), the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999, provides: "Of the amount authorized to be appropriated pursuant to section 3601(1) for operations of the Maritime Administration, \$75,000 may be available for the establishment at a State Maritime Academy of a clearinghouse for maritime information that makes that information publicly available, including by use of the Internet."

territory of the United States, from among the sponsoring States or territories, or both, to conduct the affairs of such regional maritime academy. Any regional maritime academy shall be eligible for assistance from the Federal Government on the same basis as any State maritime academy sponsored by a single State or territory of the United States.

(c) Training vessels.⁵³

(1)(A) The Secretary may furnish for training purposes any suitable vessel under the control of the Secretary or provided under subparagraph (B), or construct and furnish a suitable vessel if such a vessel is not available, to any State maritime academy meeting the requirements of subsection (f)(1). Any such vessel—

(i) shall be repaired, reconditioned, and equipped (including supplying all apparel, charts, books, and instruments of navigation) as necessary for use as a training ship;

(ii) shall be furnished to such State maritime academy only after application for such vessel is made in writing by the Governor of the State or territory sponsoring such State maritime academy or, with respect to a regional maritime academy the Governor of the State or territory designated pursuant to subsection (b);

(iii) shall be furnished to such State maritime academy only if a suitable port for the safe mooring of such vessel is available while it is being used by such academy;

(iv) shall be maintained in good repair by the Secretary; and

(v) shall remain the property of the United States.

(B) Any department or agency of the United States may provide to the Secretary to be furnished to any State maritime academy any vessel (including equipment) which is suitable for the purposes of this paragraph and which can be provided without detriment to the service to which such vessel is assigned.

(2) The Secretary may pay to any State maritime academy the amount of the costs of all fuel consumed by any vessel furnished under paragraph (1) while such vessel is being used for training purposes by such academy.

(3)(A) The Secretary may provide for the training of individuals attending a State maritime academy—

(i) on vessels owned or subsidized by the United States;

⁵³ Section 101(a) of Public Law 100-202, approved December 22, 1987 (101 STAT. 1329-28), Maritime Administration Appropriations Act, Fiscal Year 1988 (46 App. U.S.C. 1295c-1) provides: "Hereafter no funds shall be appropriated for the purchase or construction of training vessels for State maritime academies unless a plan for sharing training vessels between States maritime academies has been approved by the Maritime Administration."

- (ii) on other vessels documented under the laws of the United States if the owner of any such vessel cooperates in such use; and
- (iii) in shipyards or plants and with any industrial or educational organizations.

(B) While traveling under orders for purposes of receiving training under this paragraph, any individual who is attending a State maritime academy shall receive from the Secretary allowances for transportation (including reimbursement of traveling expenses) in accordance with any regulations promulgated by the Secretary.

(d) Annual payments.

(1)(A) The Secretary may enter into an agreement, which shall be effective for not more than 4 years, with one State maritime academy (not including regional maritime academies) located in each State or territory of the United States which meets the requirements of subsection (f)(1), and with each regional maritime academy which meets the requirements of subsection (f)(1), to make annual payments to each such academy for the maintenance and support of such academy.

(B) Subject to subparagraph (C), the annual payment to such State maritime academy shall be at least equal to the amount given to the academy for its maintenance and support by the State in which it is located, and to such regional maritime academy shall be at least equal to the amount given the academy by all States and territories cooperating to sponsor the academy.

(C) The amount under subparagraph (B) may not be more than \$25,000, except that the amount shall be—

- (i) \$100,000 to such State maritime academy if the academy meets the condition set forth in subsection (f)(2); or
- (ii) \$200,000 to such regional maritime academy if the academy meets the condition set forth in subsection (f)(2).

(2) The Secretary shall provide to each State maritime academy guidance and assistance in developing courses on the operation and maintenance of new vessels, on equipment, and on innovations being introduced to the merchant marine of the United States.

(e) **Detailing of personnel.** Upon the request of the Governor of any State or territory, the President may detail, without reimbursement, any of the personnel of the United States Navy, the United States Coast Guard, or the United States Maritime Service to any State maritime academy to serve as superintendents, professors, lecturers, or instructors at such academy.

(f) Conditions to receiving payments or use of vessels.

(1) As a condition to receiving any payment or the use of any vessel under this section, any State maritime academy shall—

(A) provide courses of instruction on navigation, marine engineering (including steam and diesel propulsion), the operation and maintenance of new vessels and equipment, and innovations being introduced to the merchant marine of the United States;

(B) agree in writing to conform to such standards for courses, training facilities, admissions, and instruction as are established by the Secretary after consultation with the superintendents of the State maritime academies; and

(C)⁵⁴ agree in writing to require, as a condition for graduation, that each individual who is a citizen of the United States and who is attending the academy in a merchant marine officer preparation program shall pass the examination administered by the Coast Guard required for issuance of a license under section 7101 of title 46, United States Code.

(2) As a condition to receiving an annual payment of any amount in excess of \$25,000 under subsection (d), a State maritime academy shall agree to admit to such academy each year a number of individuals who meet the admission requirements of such academy and who are citizens of the United States residing in States and territories of the United States other than the States or territories, or both, supporting such academy. The Secretary shall determine the number of individuals under this paragraph for each State maritime academy so that such number does not exceed one-third of the total number of individuals attending such academy at any time.

(g) Student incentive payment agreements.⁵⁵

(1) The Secretary may enter into an agreement, which shall be effective for not more than 4 academic years, with any individual, who is a citizen of the United States and is attending a State maritime academy which entered into an agreement with the Secretary under subsection (d)(1), to make student incentive payments to such individual, which payments shall be in amounts equaling \$3,000 for each academic year and which payments shall be—

(A) allocated among the various State maritime academies in a fair and equitable manner;

⁵⁴ Section 3(a) of Public Law 101-115, approved October 13, 1989 added section 1304(f)(1)(C). Section 3(b) provides: “(b) The requirements set forth in subsection (f)(1)(C) of section 1304 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as added by subsection (a) of this section, shall be a condition to any payment or use of any vessel received by a State maritime academy under section 1304 after December 31, 1989.” Section 706 of Public Law 101-595, approved November 16, 1990, provides that section 3 of Public Law 101-115, shall not be effective prior to October 1, 1994.

⁵⁵ Section 6201(a)(1) of Public Law 102-587, approved November 4, 1992 (196 STAT. 5093), increased the student incentive payment from \$1,200 to \$3,000. Section 6201(a)(2) provides that this increased amount applies to the academic years beginning after the date of enactment.

(B) used to assist the individual in paying the cost of uniforms, books, and subsistence; and

(C) paid by the Secretary as the Secretary shall prescribe while the individual is attending the academy.

(2) Each agreement entered into under paragraph (1) shall require the individual to accept midshipman and enlisted reserve status in the United States Naval Reserve (including the Merchant Marine Reserve, United States Naval Reserve) before receiving any student incentive payments under this subsection.

(3) Each agreement entered into under paragraph (1) shall obligate the individual receiving student incentive payments under the agreement—

(A) to complete the course of instruction at the State maritime academy which the individual is attending, unless the individual is separated by such academy;

(B) to take the examination for a license as an officer in the merchant marine of the United States on or before the date of graduation from such State maritime academy of such individual and to fulfill the requirements for such license not later than 3 months after such graduation date;

(C) to maintain a license as an officer in the merchant marine of the United States for at least 6 years following the date of graduation from such State maritime academy of such individual;

(D) to accept if tendered an appointment as, and to serve as a commissioned officer in the United States Naval Reserve (including the Merchant Marine Reserve, United States Naval Reserve), the United States Coast Guard Reserve, or any other reserve unit of an armed force of the United States, for at least 6 years following the date of graduation from such State maritime academy of such individual;

(E) to serve the foreign and domestic commerce and the national defense of the United States for at least 3 years following the date of graduation from the Academy—

(i) as a merchant marine officer serving on vessels documented under the laws of the United States or on vessels owned and operated by the United States or by any State or territory of the United States;

(ii) as an employee in a United States maritime-related industry, profession, or marine science (as determined by the Secretary), if the Secretary determines that service under clause (i) is not available to such individual;

(iii) as a commissioned officer on active duty in an armed force of the United States or in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; or

(iv) by combining the services specified in clauses (i), (ii), and (iii); and

(F) to report to the Secretary on the compliance by the individual to this paragraph.

(4) If the Secretary determines that any individual who has accepted the payment described in paragraph (1) has failed to fulfill the part of the agreement (required by paragraph (1)) described in paragraph (3)(A), such individual may be ordered by the Secretary of the Navy to active duty in the United States Navy to serve for a period of time not to exceed 2 years. In cases of hardship as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary may waive this paragraph.

(5) If the Secretary determines that any individual has failed to fulfill any part of the agreement (required by paragraph (1)) described in subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), (E), or (F) of paragraph (3), such individual may be ordered to active duty to serve a period of time not less than 2 years and not more than the unexpired portion (as determined by the Secretary) of the service required by subparagraph (E) of such paragraph. The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall determine in which service the individual shall be ordered to active duty to serve such period of time. In cases of hardship as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary may waive this paragraph.

(6) The Secretary may defer the service commitment of any individual pursuant to subparagraph (E) of paragraph (3) (as specified in the agreement required by such paragraph) for a period of not more than 2 years if such individual is engaged in a graduate course of study approved by the Secretary, except that any deferment of service as a commissioned officer pursuant to subparagraph (E) of such paragraph must be approved by the Secretary of the military department (including the Secretary of Commerce with respect to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) which has jurisdiction over such service.

(7) This subsection shall apply only to individuals first entering a State maritime academy after the date occurring 6 months after the effective date of the Maritime Education and Training Act of 1980.

(h) Appointment of cadet as midshipman in United States Naval Reserve. Any citizen of the United States attending a State maritime academy may be appointed by the Secretary of the Navy as a midshipman in the United States Naval Reserve (including the Merchant Marine Reserve, United States Naval Reserve).

SEC. 1305. ADDITIONAL TRAINING (46 App. U.S.C. 1295d (1999)).

(a) The Secretary may provide additional training on maritime subjects, as the Secretary deems necessary, to supplement other training

opportunities and may make any such training available to the personnel of the merchant marine of the United States and to individuals preparing for a career in the merchant marine of the United States.

(b) The Secretary may prepare or purchase any equipment or supplies required for any training provided under subsection (a) and may contract with any person, partnership, firm, association, or corporation (without regard to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (41 U.S.C. 5)) for the performance of any services deemed necessary by the Secretary in the preparation of any such equipment or supplies and in the supervision and administration of any such training.

(c)(1) The Secretary shall assist maritime training institutions approved by the Secretary in establishing a maritime oil pollution prevention, response, and clean-up training program.

(2) Under the program established under paragraph (1)—

(A) the Secretary may provide, to maritime training institutions approved by the Secretary, vessels described in paragraph (4), with title free of all liens, subject to the requirements specified under paragraph (3); and

(B) in return for receipt of such vessels, such institutions shall—

(i) employ the vessels for the training of students and appropriate maritime industry personnel in oil spill prevention, response, clean-up, and related skills; and

(ii) make the vessels and qualified students available to appropriate Federal, State, and local oil spill response authorities in the event of a maritime oil spill.

(3) The requirements referred to in paragraph (2)(A) are as follows:

(i) any vessel provided under paragraph (2)(A) shall be tendered to the approved maritime training institution at a location determined by the Secretary;

(ii) no such vessel may be sold, traded, chartered, donated, scrapped, or in any way altered or disposed of without the prior approval of the Secretary;

(iii) no such vessel may be used in competition with any privately-owned vessel documented under the laws of the United States or any State, unless necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection;

(iv) any approved maritime training institution in possession of such a vessel which can no longer utilize the vessel for training purposes shall return the vessel to the Secretary, who shall take possession of the vessel at the training institution and thereafter may dispose of the vessel, or provide the vessel to another approved maritime training institution, as the Secretary determines appropriate; and

(v) such other requirements or conditions as the Secretary determines appropriate.

(4) The vessels referred to in paragraph (2)(A) are United States-built offshore supply vessels and United States-built tug/supply vessels in the possession of the Maritime Administration as a result of defaults on loans guaranteed under title XI of this Act.

SEC. 1306. UNITED STATES MARITIME SERVICE (46 App. U.S.C. 1295e (1999)).

(a) **Establishment and maintenance.** The Secretary may establish and maintain a voluntary organization for the training of citizens of the United States to serve on merchant marine vessels of the United States to be known as the United States Maritime Service.

(b) **Enrollment; compensation; course of study and periods of training; uniforms.** The Secretary may determine the number of individuals to be enrolled for training and reserve purposes in such service, to fix the rates of pay and allowances of such individuals without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code (relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates), to prescribe the course of study and the periods of training in such service, and to prescribe the uniform of such service and the rules governing the wearing and furnishing of such uniform.

(c) **Ranks, grades, and ratings same as for United States Coast Guard.** The ranks, grades, and ratings for personnel of the United States Maritime Service shall be the same as are then prescribed for the personnel of the United States Coast Guard.

SEC. 1307. CIVILIAN NAUTICAL SCHOOL (46 App. U.S.C. 1295f (1999)).

(a) **Definition.** As used in this section, the term “civilian nautical school” means any school operated and conducted in the United States (except the Academy maintained under section 1303, any State maritime academy assisted under section 1304, and any other school operated by the United States or any agency of the United States) which offers instruction to individuals quartered on board any vessel for the primary purpose of training them for service in the merchant marine.

(b) **Examination and inspection of school; rating and certification.** Each civilian nautical school shall be subject to examination and inspection by the Secretary, and the Secretary may (under such rules and regulations as the Secretary may prescribe) provide for the rating and certification of such schools as to the adequacy of the course of instruction, the competency of the instructors, and the suitability of the equipment used by, or in connection with, such school.

(d) Fines and penalties. Whoever—

(1) violates this section or any regulations promulgated to implement this section; shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, for each offense.

SEC. 1308. POWERS AND DUTIES OF SECRETARY (46 App. U.S.C. 1295g (1999)).

(a) **Rules and regulations.** The Secretary shall establish such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out this title.

(b) **Excess vessels and equipment.** The Secretary may cooperate with and assist the Academy, any State maritime academy, and any nonprofit training institution which has been jointly approved by the Secretary and the Secretary of the department in which the United States Coast Guard is operating as offering training courses which meet Federal regulations for maritime training, by making vessels, shipboard equipment, and other marine equipment, owned by the United States which have been determined to be excess or surplus, available by gift, loan, sale, lease, or charter to such institution for instructional purposes on such terms as the Secretary deems appropriate.

(c) Securing of information, facilities, or equipment; detailing of personnel.

(1) The Secretary may secure directly from any department or agency of the United States any information, facilities, or equipment, on a reimbursable basis, necessary to carry out this title.

(2) Upon the request of the Secretary, the head of any department or agency of the United States (including any military department of the United States) may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of such department or agency to the Secretary to assist in carrying out this title.

(d) **Employment of personnel.** To carry out this title, the Secretary may employ at the Academy any individual as a professor, lecturer, or instructor, without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code (governing appointments in the competitive service), and may pay such individual without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title (relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates).

TRAINING OF FUTURE NAVAL OFFICERS UNDER NAVAL RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS PROGRAMS AT MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMIES FOR PROMOTION OF MAXIMUM INTEGRATION OF NAVAL AND MERCHANT MARINE SEAPOWERS OF THE NATION (46 App. U.S.C. 1126-1 (1999)).⁵⁶

⁵⁶Enacted as section 603 of Public Law 94-361, approved July 14, 1976 (90 STAT. 929), as amended.

(a) It is the policy of the United States that the United States Navy and the Merchant Marine of the United States work closely together to promote the maximum integration of the total seapower forces of the Nation. In furtherance of this policy, it is necessary and desirable that special steps be taken to assure that Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps programs (for training future naval officers) be maintained at Federal and State merchant marine academies.

(b) It is the sense of the Congress that the Secretary of the Navy should work with the Maritime Administrator and the administrators of the several merchant marine academies to assure that the training available at these academies is consistent with Navy standards and needs.